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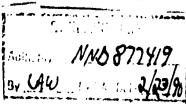
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ential informant, SED functioneries in East Berlin discussing sir corridor problems when Soviets turn over control to GDM, expressed hope that restern /llies will not permit GDM representative in BASC. GDR will then seek negotiate with commercial sirlines for flights to Schoenefeld with stop at Magdeburg, with GDR guaranteeing flight safety.

Some source states GDA has been carrying on discussions with Swissair officials concerning flights from Switzerland to Berlin-Schoenefeld via Magdeburg.

- Possibility East Germans may be considering, when Soviets relinquish occupation responsibilities, trying to require all air traffic between Berlin and west to land at sirfield near Magdeburg, previously reported Berlin's G-181 to Dept (G-50 to Bonn, November 16, 1958), again subject of information given Mission. According Senator for Economic /ffairs Hertz, in mid-December an East German trading organization official told West Berlin businessman that GDR control Berlin-Federal Republic air traffic would be instituted at this sirfield; that Federal Republic and West Berlin identity cards would not be accepted as valid travel documents; but rather German passport would be required; and that customs duties would have to be paid at Magdeburg landing field.
- According information received from USMIM contruction of sirfield of Cochstedt, 20 miles SW Magdeburg, was begun September 1958. Progress construction indicates little likelihood completion before 1960 or operational use before 1961. Whether wirfield destined for civilian or military use is not known, but site is guarded by Vopos rather than for military personnel. No other airfield suitable to purpose mentioned is known to exist in immediate area of Magdeburg.

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East German propagandist Gerhard Eisler as warning that, after transfer Soviet occupation functions, GDR's approval of flights of western aircraft to Berlin would be required. Eisler characterized as "suicidal" idea that such flights could be made without GDR permission. He noted flight ansaty problems that would exist if 20 East aircraft were flying in corridor area when Western aircraft attempted flight to Berlin. Eisler's statements, made in talk before East Berlin culture group, were not reported in East Press.

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